GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:707
ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008
CONSTITUTION OF TRANS HIMALAYAN AUTHORITY
Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to constitute a Trans Himalayan Authority to address the environmental and agro climatic issues of Hill States;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) The steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) No Sir.

(b) The question does not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

(c) However, to address environmental issues in the Trans Himalayan regions, Gobind Ballabh Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, an autonomous institute of Ministry of Environment & Forests with headquarters at Almora in Uttarakhand and four regional units in Himalayas, is engaged in research and studies related to glaciers and cold desert regions. Cultivation of Seabuckthorn, a species suitable for cultivation in the cold desert/alpine areas in the Trans Himalayas is being promoted. Besides, potential site for designating a Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve, covering States of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh is under consideration.